

ABSTRACT

A system is provided for switching the I/O channel for disk drives between multiple computers. The system incorporates the switch into removable drive modules, or a docking base for a removable drive module. The incorporation of switching into the system, such that
5 it is integral with the drives, can reduce overall system failures, by reducing the number of elements which flow through a central switching element. Thus, even where a switch fails other drive modules of the system may continue to operate in the system and provide information to different computers of the system.